Railway Accidents near Samalpatty

1251. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI
CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a rail accident recently in Samalpatty Railway Station in Tamil Nadu resulting in the deaths of 22 people and injuries to more than 100;

(b) if so, whether any investigation was ordered;

(c) the compensation paid to the relatives of those killed and injured in the accident;

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent such frequent rail accidents in future; and

(e) whether it is due to negligence of staff, the action taken against the staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) On 1-6-93, 6635 Kurla-Cochin Express collided with the derailed wagons of a goods train at Samalpatti Station. Consequently, 21 persons died and 44 persons sustained injuries.

(b) Comissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle, is conducting statutory enquiry into this accident.

(c) No claims, arising out of this accident, for compensation have been received in Railway Claims Tribunal, Madras. However, a total sum of Rs. 1,53,750 has been paid as *ex-gratia* to the families of killed and to the injured passengers.

(d) Some of the steps taken to prevent such accidents are as follows:—

(i) Intensive inspections of maintenance depots of coaches, wagons and locomotives.

(ii) Monitoring the performance of the staff of the critical safety categories as drivers, guards, station masters, etc.

(iii) Counselling and intensive training of staff in operational categories, specially in proper check-up of their trains *en route*.

(iv) Creating greater awareness among station staff to detect the abnormalities on running trains in time and prompt action to stop the affected trains.

(v) Strengthening arrangements to watch out moving trains for hot axles, etc. from both sides of the train.

(e) Action will be taken after the receipt of the Commissioner of Railway Safety's report.

Electrification of Railway Stations in Bihar

1252. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Railway Stations in the State of Bihar have not been electrified so far;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government propose to electrify all the Railway Stations in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (c) Out of 796 Railway Stations/halts in the State of Bihar, 601 have already been provided with electricity. Of the remaining 195 stations work for electrification of 40 stations has been programmed. The balance 155 stations will be taken up as and when electricity is made available in the vicinity and subject to availability of funds.

Indian Railway Finance Corporation

1253. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what amount of money of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation is locked up with CANFINA;

(b) whether any modalities have been worked out for the realisation of the above money and with the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Indian Railway Finance Corporation to raise its market borrowing for financing the Railway projects?